Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, On December 17, 1903, the Wright Brothers accomplished the first powered flight of a "heavier-than-air" aircraft and thus opened the door to some of the greatest accomplishments and adventures ever witnessed by human-kind; and,

Whereas, South Dakota has raised and inspired many world renowned and hardy individuals who used aviation to its best advantage, and a few of these determined individuals include: Joe Foss, World War II fighter ace; Clyde Ice, creator of inventive solutions to problems inherent to South Dakota, including saving lives of rural South Dakotans during snow storms, wildlife control from the air, and saving crops by creating a way to spray crops using a plane; and Nellie Zabel Willhite, first deaf woman to pilot a plane; and,

Whereas, Aviation is critical in connecting rural South Dakota with the rest of the nation's air transportation system with its 73 public use airports in South Dakota's airport system that are owned, operated, and maintained by cities and counties; and,

Whereas, The future of aviation will always be inspired to move forward due to our ever changing needs in life; and,

Whereas, The world will never be without some type of transportation through the air, and we have the Wright Brothers to thank for that:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2003, as

CENTENNIAL OF FLIGHT CELEBRATION KICKOFF MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-eighth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State